Curriculum Newsletter – spring term 2nd half 2018

We really hope you enjoyed your break and, like us, are looking forward to the next half term and (hopefully) some warmer weather.
Here in year 5, we are excited to launch into our new topic: "Debates: Hot Topic". Get ready for your child to come home with many relevant ideas and feelings about their positions on many heavily debated topics in London during this present time.
Thank you, as ever, for your continued support and please do not hesitate to contact us should you have any queries throughout this half term.

Achieving Success

Mathematics
The units we will be covering this half term are:
Fractions, Decimals and Percentages: Developing our understanding of percentages and converting them to fractions / decimals; adding/ subtracting/multiplying with fractions; problem solving with all of the above.
Transformations: Identify and describe translations and positions of shapes with appropriate language; deduce missing lengths and angles.

PSHE
This half term we are looking at The Happiness Curriculum. We will be learning what the keys to happiness are and discovering the skills for living a happy life. By the end of this unit, pupils will be able to demonstrate an understanding of each of the 'keys' to happiness as well as learning what actions they can take to promote their own and others' happiness and wellbeing.

Science
This term, we are continuing out unit on Water, Acids & Alkalis with a focus on collecting and analysing data. We shall be discovering what water is and what acids and alkalis are; learning how to identify them by using a Universal Indicator and a pH scale and then taking an in depth look at the water cycle and the roles played by evaporation, condensation and temperature.

Topic
We will be finishing off our topic from last term by learning about locating cities, mapping, and geographical locations around the world. We will also start learning about religious festivals and begin writing our information texts on them.

ICT
Year 5 are continuing their 10-session Computing Starter course that introduces various concepts such as coding, mobile app development, animations, game design and robotics. This will be taught by an external practitioner on Wednesday (Greece) and Friday (Spain) afternoons.

Literacy
We will be writing discussion texts this term and compete in several in class debates. Our in classroom courtroom will ensure for a wonderful atmosphere and our discussion topics will all relate to heavily discussed topics in London during this present time. We will begin by focusing on topics that appear in their everyday life and then move onto topics such as gentrification in the later part of the term.

Physical Education
In P.E this term we are looking at Health Related Fitness and understanding the changes the body makes during exercise. We are focusing on cardiovascular endurance by running long distances, muscular endurance with repetitive muscular movements like squatting or press ups etc. We are also focusing on co-ordination by throwing and catching with the dominant and non-dominant hand in addition to agility, where we will be doing the Illinois agility test. We will be recording our results on the last week and comparing them to our results from the first week to see if there's any improvement.

Art
In Art this term, the children will be going back to the turn of the twentieth century and looking at London as a Metropolis. We will mainly be working with charcoal and using perspective to add depth to our work.

Other Useful Information: Spain Class will be attending the Rhythm Studio every Wednesday throughout the Spring Term and any parent helpers available to walk with them would be much appreciated. Children will need to bring their PE kits on a Tuesday only. For class book, Spain class are continuing to read Street Child and Greece class are continuing The Wolves of Willoughby Chase. Do make sure that you are continuing to read with your children at home every day, with a focus on their understanding of the text.

Aspiration & **A**chievement – **S**cholarship – **P**erseverance – **I**ntegrity – **R**espect & **R**esponsibility – **E**nthusiasm